



West
Northamptonshire
Council

Bus Service Improvement Plan

Outline for Cabinet - October 2021



Appendix A - Note this is an outline document, which follows DfT's guidelines and is provided for information. The document will be finalised under delegated authority.

Document Version Control

****Complete this section, making sure to include the following information**:**

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Additional Comments to note

****Make any additional comments as might be relevant here****

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1.0 Overview

1.1 This is West Northamptonshire Council's first Bus Service Improvement Plan. It is produced in accordance with guidance published by the Department for Transport.

1.2 The Plan covers the whole of the West Northamptonshire Council area. The map below shows the area covered, and indicates the adjoining local transport authority areas.

[Insert map]

1.3 This Bus Service Improvement Plan has been produced following the publication of the Government's National Bus Strategy for England Bus Back Better in March 2021. The Plan sets out West Northamptonshire Council's policies for improving bus services in its area and will be implemented through an Enhanced Partnership with local bus operators, which is to be formed by April 2022.

1.4 West Northamptonshire Council is a new unitary authority, only formed in April 2021. While we have inherited the Local Transport Plan of our predecessor, Northamptonshire County Council, we want to review those policies in light of our own emerging wider policies and key issues such as transport decarbonisation. The timescales which have been set for production of this first Bus Service Improvement Plan mean that it precedes that wider review of our transport policies.

1.5 This first Bus Service Improvement Plans therefore represents our initial proposals, and largely has a medium term timeframe of around three-five years. It will be developed further through annual reviews alongside the development of our Local Transport Plan and other policies with the intention of placing the improvement of bus services within a much longer-term policy context. Future Plans will also reflect the development of our Enhanced Partnership with local bus operators and the development of detailed implementation plans for bus service improvements.

2.0 Current bus offer to passengers

Analysis of existing local bus services compared to BSIP outcomes

LTA financial support for bus services

Other factors which affect the use of local bus services

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3.0 Headline targets

Targets for journey times and reliability improvements

Targets for passenger growth and customer satisfaction

4.0 Delivery

Service network review

Bus priority

Fares

Integrated ticketing

Integrated services

Information

Modern buses and decarbonisation

Giving bus passengers more of a voice and say

Making passengers feel safer

More demand-responsive services and 'socially necessary' transport

Longer term transformation of networks through Bus Rapid Transit and other measures

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5.0 Reporting

6.0 Overview table

Name of authority or authorities:	
Franchising or Enhanced Partnership (or both)	
Date of publication:	
Date of next annual update:	
URL of published report:	

Targets	2018/19	2019/20	Target for 2024/25	Description of how each will be measured (max 50 words)
Journey time				
Reliability				
Passenger numbers				
Average passenger satisfaction				

Delivery – Does your BSIP detail policies to:	Yes/No	Explanation (max 50 words)
Make improvements to bus services and planning		
<i>More frequent and reliable services</i>		
Review service frequency		
Increase bus priority measures		
Increase demand responsive services		
Consideration of bus rapid transport networks		
<i>Improvements to planning/integration with other modes</i>		
Integrate services with other transport modes		
Simplify services		
Review socially necessary services		
Invest in Superbus networks		
<i>Improvements to fares and ticketing</i>		
Lower fares		
Simplify fares		
Integrate ticketing between operators and transport		

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Make improvements to bus passenger experience		
<i>Higher spec buses</i>		
Invest in improved bus specifications		
Invest in accessible and inclusive bus services		
Protect personal safety of bus passengers		
Improve buses for tourists		
Invest in decarbonisation		
<i>Improvements to passenger engagement</i>		
Passenger charter		
Strengthen network identity		
Improve bus information		
Other		
Other		

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7.0 Glossary of terms

Use this section to give definitions to any words that require explanation – especially if this is a public document. If you can't avoid jargon or technical terms, this is the place to explain them.

Term	Definition